THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL) : (a) This Ministry has not sought the opinion from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on the subject.

(b) There is only one major producer of Glybenclamide in this country.

(c) The present price of Daonil tablets is Rs. 14·99 for 10×10 tablets. The same was fixed at Rs. 8·88 (without ED) before decontrol.

(d) to (f) The Kelkar Committee which has recommended the list of drugs for inclusion under Cat. II had included Glybenclamide in this list, as this anti-diabetic drug was included in the essential list of drugs prepared by WHO. However, the Kelkar Committee in its supplementary report had recommended for deletion of this drug from price control as Glybenclamide has been subsequently deleted by the WHO from their list of essential drugs. Accordingly, this drug was deleted from price control.

Creation of Technology Bank

@2340. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have created or envisaged the creation of Technology Bank where all available technology in India may be made available to the user industries, thereby reducing the import of technology to a great extent ;

(b) if so, what are the details of such Technology Bank and the extent of reliance reduced in import of technology;

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, whether Government would consider the desirability of setting up such a bank; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) There is no specific proposal for creation of a Technology Bank solely for keeping information on all available technologies in India. There is, however, a proposal to establish a Technology Information Centre in the Directorate-General of Technical Development, whose main function would be to collect, analyse and disseminate information on technical and commercial aspects of industrial technologies from abroad and with in the country for users in the Government, public and private sectors. The proposal is in its preliminary stage.

Acquiring of Foreign-owned Indian Companies through Manipulation of Share Holding.

2341. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry's attention has been drawn towards the unhealthy trends in the Corporate sector of acquiring foreign-owned Indian companies through manipulation of share holding through LIC and UTI

@Previously Unstarred Question 1679, transferred from the 1st August, 1989

by the well known groups like R.P. Goenka, United Breweries, Reliance Industries etc.;

(b) whether shareholding of Reliance while acquiring Larsen& Toubro was negligible and it was through the back door influence by financial institutions like LIC, UTI etc. which helped it to clinch the deal; and

(c) whether Government are aware that UK laws regarding acquisiton of a company provide details to be published as per "London Take over Bids" which is a part of London Stock Exchange; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to curb such manipulations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No such unhealthy trend in the corporate sector for acquiring foreign owned Indian companies by Large Industrial Houses has come to the notice of this Ministry.

(b) Government have not received any proposal for take-over of M/s. Larsen & Toubro Ltd. by M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd., under section 23 (4) of the M. R. T. P. Act, 1969.

(c) and (d) The U.K. laws are not applicable in this country. The proposals for 'take-over' of companies in terms of section 23 (4) of M.R.T.P. Act, 1969, are considered by Government after taking into account the guiding factors mentioned in section 28 thereof. Further, before submitting an application under section 23 (4) of M. R. T. P. Act, 1969, the owner of an undertaking which propose to take-over the whole or part of any other undertaking is required under rule 4A of M. R. T. P. Rules, 1970 to publish a general notice, in the newspapers, to the members of public giving therein the brief particulars of the proposal.

Establishment of a Polyester Fibre Plant at Goinpeta in Orissa

2342. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a polyester fibre plant at Goinpeta in Phulbani district;

(b) if so, what is the estimated cost of the project; and

(c) what steps are being contemplated to set up the project at an early date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, a letter of intent has been issued to M/s. L. K. Polyfibre Limited for establishment of a new undertaking preferably in any centrally backward District of Orissa State for manufacture of Polyester Filament Yarn for a capacity of 15,000 tonnes/annum. The plant is now being set up in Phulbani District of Orissa at an estimated cost of Rs. 144 crores. Normally, it takes 3-4 years to set up such a plant after obtaining all approvals.

Gas Agencies in Orissa

2343. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of gas agencies sanctioned in Orissa so far;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have not taken into consideration some important places in Orissa for granting gas agencies; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?